

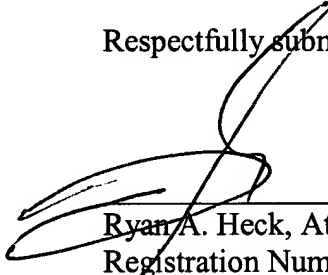
CONCLUSION

The applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the examiner has any questions regarding the application or this response, the examiner is

5 encouraged to call the applicants' attorney, Ryan A. Heck, at (775) 826-6160.

Respectfully submitted,

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Registration Number: 51,795



VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES MADE

Applicants request the Office to enter the following amendments to claim 22:

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5 22. (Amended) A tear bar system comprising:

(A) a strip of media, the media comprising:

(a) a surface;

(b) a first side;

(c) a second side;

10 (d) a center portion between the first and second side; and

(e) a plurality of perforations, the perforations being separated by a plurality of bridges of connecting material;

(B) a tear bar, the tear bar comprising:

(a) a first side portion, the first side portion being adapted to abut the surface of the media in close relative proximity to a first bridge of connecting material and apply resistance on the media when a longitudinal force is applied to the media, wherein the first side portion comprises a tapered surface, wherein the distance between the surface of the strip of media and [height of] the tear bar [de]increases as the tear bar is traversed in the direction from the first side of the strip of media towards the center portion of the strip of media;

(b) a second side portion, the second side portion being adapted to abut the surface of the media in close relative proximity to a second bridge of connecting material and apply resistance on the media when a longitudinal force is applied to the media, wherein no portion of the tear bar between

the first and second side portions is closer to the strip of media than the first side portion; and

[(c)] wherein the tear bar [and the strip of media are] remains in a fixed position [relative to each other] during separation of the strip of media.